



State of Arizona
Department of Education

Tom Horne
Superintendent of
Public Instruction

August 28, 2010
02-11

MEMORANDUM

To: Special Education Administrators

From: Amy Corriveau
Deputy Associate Superintendent, Early Childhood Education

Valerie Andrews James
Director, Early Childhood Special Education

Subject: **New On-going Progress Monitoring Instrument**

Four assessment instrument contracts that have been in effect since 2006 in Arizona are scheduled to expire in the summer of 2011. As a result, the Early Childhood Education unit initiated the process to select a new instrument in order to meet federal reporting requirements.

ADE conducted a formal procurement process (Request for Proposal) to obtain best and final large volume pricing and to also relieve LEAs from conducting a formal procurement process at the district level. The RFP process yielded one tool that met the requirements of the rubric that was utilized by the Early Childhood Assessment Review team in completing their task.

On Monday, August 23rd the State Board of Education approved Teaching Strategies GOLD as the only assessment tool for students enrolled in early childhood special education programs.

LEAs are NOT required to begin using *Teaching Strategies GOLD* to assess children until Fall 2011. LEAs can continue using their current assessment instrument for assessing children in 2010-2011.

Regional trainings throughout Arizona will be made available by the vendor in Spring 2011. These trainings have not yet been scheduled. More details will be forthcoming. LEAs are responsible for the payment of training and assessment costs. Please visit www.teachingstrategies.com/arizona for a brief introduction to the new tool.

